

23 December 1969

Mr. Walter McGough, Jr.
Deputy Special Assistant
(Threat Assessment)
Office of the Director of Defense
Research and Engineering
Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Wally:

We appreciate your comments on "The Effectiveness of ABM Collectors." Your support is not only encouraging but of great benefit to work on systems evaluation.

Your specific comments and recommendations are ones with which we agree. In this regard, let me note that we are planning to propose an interagency group comprised of CIA, DIA and State Department, possibly chaired by a senior intelligence officer on the NIPE staff, to structure and value over-all intelligence needs (in effect, parts a and b of Recommendation 4). We would envision this group acting under the auspices of USIB and its product receiving the approval of USIB. Major General Jack Thomas, USAF (Ret.), who, as you know, was formerly Director of Intelligence of the Air Force, would be our choice to chair such a group. A meeting of the ABM Special Study Committee was held on 19 December and there was preliminary discussion about the establishment of this kind of group.

Greater participation of your staff members in this work would be most welcome. I am sure that they could make a substantial contribution, just as I believe the work will be of value to you.

Sincerely,

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